

Satellite Eye on the Chinese

By Jack Anderson

BRUSSELS—Secretary of State Rusk's advance announcement of Chinese plans to detonate their first nuclear device should give some assurance to those worried by Barry Goldwater's scare-mongering.

It can now be revealed that our information regarding the Chinese nuclear innovation came from some of the most expert espionage in the world: High-soaring satellites and U-2 planes. We now rely less on U-2s and more on observation satellites which take photos as they orbit the world.

These pictures have kept a record of Chinese atomic preparations and recently have showed a special type of construction which U.S. atomic experts immediately recognized as advance preparations for an explosion.

There had been previous intelligence reports that the Chinese intended to set off a bomb as part of their annual Oct. 10 celebration of the Chinese revolution.

The Chinese bomb has been built with no help from Moscow. The Russians long ago refused any more information to Red China, which was one reason for the break between the two countries.



Anderson

Our Allies Worry

The big question on the minds of Europeans these days is the American election. People ask you with worry in their voices whether there is any chance the polls might be wrong and that Sen. Barry Goldwater might become the next President of the United States.

They don't know Sen. Goldwater, have nothing against him personally. But they have read his statements about giving the nuclear weapons to field commanders, about withdrawing from the U.N. if Red China is admitted, about removing the hot line between Moscow and Washington, about this denunciation of co-existence.

And they shudder at the possibility that he might be elected. This fear is found among NATO allies, neutral nations, and among Communist bloc countries alike.

There is also a certain amount of worry that President Johnson, while under attack from Sen. Goldwater, may try to prove he is not soft on communism.

Both the diplomats in the chanceries and the people on the streets have the distinct impression that Mr. Johnson would not have taken such precipitous action in bombing the PT boat bases in North Viet-Nam had he not been in the middle of an election and under Sen. Goldwater's fire.

They also suspect that the story is far from complete on

the latest Gulf of Tonkin incident where U.S. destroyers fired at allegedly approaching PT boats. It's known that the weather was bad, that PT boats were never sighted except on radar, and that radar screens sometimes can play tricks.

At any rate the general impression is that the destroyer commander spooked, and fired at a phantom target. War-worried Europeans pray there will be no more such incidents before the election campaign is over.

The Hot Line

One Goldwater proposal which alarms Europeans is the official Republican platform proposal to abolish the "hot line," the teletype between Moscow and Washington which guards against accidental war.

How accidental war could happen is graphically portrayed by Columbia Pictures' "Fail Safe," in which the President of the United States, played by Henry Fonda, tries desperately to stop bombers flying by accident toward Moscow.

It was to prevent such nuclear accidents that the hot line, after long negotiations, was finally set up.

Most people don't know it, but on at least one occasion the United States had a momentary fright, because of faulty radar signals.

On Oct. 5, 1960, the North American Air Defense Com-

mand at Colorado Springs was alerted that Russian intercontinental missiles appeared to be crossing the Arctic, headed straight for the United States.

This was the signal that the civilized world hoped would never come, but from Thule, Greenland, came the terrifying warning: "Massive ICBM attack is under way."

Air Marshal C. Roy Slemon of the Canadian Air Force was in command. He had 17 minutes in which to alert the President and perhaps touch off a counter broadside of American missiles.

Slemon immediately asked Washington for a report on the whereabouts of Khrushchev. The reply came back that he was in New York. Slemon decided an attack on the United States when the leader of the Soviet world was in New York was doubtful. The "massive ICBM attack" turned out to be a fluke on the radar screen.

It's to prevent accidental war that the hot line between Washington and Moscow was established. And the fact that the Republican Party has gone on record officially in favor of abolishing it, is one of the reasons Europeans will not breathe easy until this election is over.